

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 05515 100509Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /056 W
-----067542 100511Z /15
O 100443Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY MANILA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 4022

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 5515

E. O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT, RP
SUBJECT: LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS; OVER 500 LABAN MARCHERS ARRESTED
APRIL 9; LABAN CHARGES WHOLESALE ELECTION FRAUD; KBL WIDENS LEAD

REF: MANILA 5514

1. MANILA DAILIES APRIL 10 REPORT ARREST OF TOTAL OF 562
LABAN MARCHERS YESTERDAY, INCLUDING FOUR CANDIDATES AND CAM-
PAIGN MANAGER CITED REFTEL. ALSO INCLUDED IN GROUP OF DE-
TAINEES ARE LABAN LAWYER JOKER ARROYO, RODRIGO'S SON,
GUINGONA'S WIFE AND A NUMBER OF NUNS AND STUDENTS. REPORTEDLY
SEIZED FROM THE MARCHERS WERE SEVERAL PILLBOX BOMBS AND PLAC-
ARDS READING "REVOLUTION, THE ANSWER TO MARTIAL LAW." PRESS
CITES MILITARY AUTHORITIES AS SAYING THOSE ARRESTED WILL BE
CHARGED WITH SEDITION AND INCITING TO SEDITION. A MALACANANG
SPOKESMAN ADVISED THAT THE DETAINEES ARE BEING INVESTIGATED
FOR THEIR PARTICIPATION "IN THE VIOLENT AND RIOTOUS" DEMON-
STRATIONS ON APRIL 6. METROCOM'S GENERAL OLIVAS NOTED THAT
THE LABAN MARCH WAS "AN OPEN DEFIANCE TO REPEATED WARN-
INGS BY PRESIDENT MARCOS AGAINST FURTHER ILLEGAL MASS
ACTION DESIGNED TO FOMENT DISORDER."

2. EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED COPIES OF THREE LABAN PRESS BULLE-
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TINS DISTRIBUTED ON APRIL 7. BULLETINS ALLEGE "WHOLESALE
RESORT TO FRAUD" AND A "PATTERN OF WANTON ELECTION FRAUD
AND OPEN TERRORISM" ON THE PART OF THE KBL. BULLETINS DE-
SCRIBE NUMEROUS INSTANCES OF BALLOT BOX STUFFING, MULTIPLE
VOTING BY "FLYING VOTERS", BRIBES, INTIMIDATION OF LABAN
CAMPAIGN WORKERS, ETC.

3. COMELEC TABULATION OF METRO MANILA VOTING IS STILL
PRECEEDING VERY SLOWLY. AS OF 2200 APRIL 9 COMELEC RE-
LEASED TABULATIONS FOR 561 PRECINCTS WHICH CONFIRMS 2-1 TREND
FOR KBL. GAP BETWEEN LOWEST KBL VOT-GETTING AND AQUINO HAS
NOW WIDENED TO 41,000 VOTES. MRS. MARCOS HAS MOVED INTO
NUMBER ONE KBL SLOT AHEAD OF CARLOS ROMULO.
STULL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 10 apr 1978
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
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Disposition History: n/a
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